



**U.S. Department of Justice**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MAN SENTENCED TO 210 MONTHS FOR BANK ROBBERY  
AND USE OF A FIREARM**

BALTIMORE, Maryland - Allen F. Loucks, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced that today U.S. District Court Judge William Quarles sentenced Ronald Stewart, age 43, of Baltimore, Maryland, to 210 months in prison followed by 5 years of supervised release in connection with his guilty plea to bank robbery and brandishing a firearm during a crime of violence. Judge Quarles also ordered Stewart to pay restitution of \$6,516.00.

According to the agreed statement of facts presented at his guilty plea on November 15, 2004, on July 22, 2004 Stewart entered the First Mariner Bank located at 1738 York Road, Lutherville, Maryland armed with a semi-automatic handgun. He advised the tellers that "this is a holdup" and "don't anybody push any buttons or I will kill you." Co-defendant Traquan Johnson, age 23, of Baltimore, Maryland entered the bank lobby a few seconds later. Stewart then demanded money from the tellers and pointed the firearm at the heads of the tellers, threatening them while obtaining money from their cash drawers. Johnson stood behind Stewart and held an object that was fashioned to look like an explosive device. Johnson obtained money from the cash drawers and then passed the device over the counter to Stewart. Persons in the bank were advised that they better get

out. Johnson and Stewart then left the bank and got into a vehicle. Police located the defendants and vehicle, and recovered currency from the robbery and the firearm used in the commission of the robbery. The total amount taken during the bank robbery was \$6,516.

Both defendants gave statements admitting to the robbery of First Mariner Bank, along with the following bank robberies: July 15, 2004, Citizens Bank, 2124 South Queen Street, York, PA - \$3,833; and July 8, 2004, M&T Bank, 9780 Groffs Mill Drive, Owings Mills, MD - \$20,484.

As part of the statement of facts presented to the Court at his guilty plea Ronald Stewart admitted to committing four additional bank robberies in Maryland: April 14, 2004, First Mariner Bank, 1049 Maryland Route 3, Gambrills, MD - \$3,255; May 14, 2004, M&T Bank, 9780 Groffs Mill Drive, Owings Mills, MD - \$1,600; June 2, 2004, First Mariner Bank, 1049 Maryland Route 3, Gambrills, MD - \$5,450; June 21, 2004, Bank of America, 9609 Harford Road, Baltimore County, MD - \$4,902; and July 2, 2004, The Patapsco Bank, 8705 Harford Road, Baltimore, MD.

Traquan Johnson was sentenced to 125 months imprisonment on March 2, 2005.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney A. David Copperthite.